

Abstract

A tilt of a light beam to be radiated onto an information recording disk is corrected without using a dedicated tilt sensor. The
5 correction is performed based on the characteristic that an offset amount between a tilt amount maximizing an RF signal amplitude and a further tilt amount maximizing an LPP signal amplitude is constant and independent of positions on the same disk. A pre-pit signal indicative of an existence/nonexistence of a pre-pit formed on the disk
10 is produced from returned light of the light beam, while an RF signal is produced from bits of information recorded on the disk on the basis of the returned light. An optimum tilt-correcting amount is decided by making use of a relationship between the pre-pit signal and the RF signal at a particular tilt amount. The tilt amount is corrected using
15 the optimum tilt-correcting amount.